



Seacology's latest project at Andreba, Madagascar protects 210 acres of wetlands at the shores of Lac Alaotra, the country's biggest lake.

Defending a biodiversity treasure

Seacology's eleven projects in Madagascar exemplify our mission

Seacology works exclusively to protect island ecosystems because of the unique properties common to islands. They are hubs of biodiversity and endemism (the presence of species that exist nowhere else). They are often isolated from services, and their people struggle with poverty. And they are disproportionately vulnerable to ecological disasters. In few places are these conditions more evident than Madagascar.

Madagascar is famous for its endemic plants and animals. Its iconic lemurs, baobab trees, and dizzying number of unique reptiles and amphibians are the subject of vast amounts of research, and new species are constantly being discovered there. Its large size, diverse topography, and geographic isolation have served as catalysts for what a recent column in the Guardian referred to as "evolution's last and greatest laboratory." Others have dubbed the island the world's "eighth continent" for this reason.



Madagascar's people struggle with crushing poverty, with roughly 80% of the country's 21 million people living below the poverty line. This growing and all-too-often desperate human population puts immense pressure on the environment through unsustainable conversion of land into farms, and wildlife and lumber trafficking.

Seacology's model of conservation has always been about finding win-win solutions to such challenges, something we've done in Madagascar since 1999. Through 11 projects and counting, we've helped to protect more than 17,000 acres of some of Madagascar's most important habitat, home to countless endangered species, while promoting sustainable livelihoods in communities across the island nation.

Our most recent Madagascar project is a fantastic example of this. Working with the village of Andreba, Seacology is protecting a 210-acre area of wetland that is the only known habitat of the *bandro*, or Lac Alaotra

Continued on page 6

IN THIS ISSUE

Letter from the Chair	2
Personnel	2
Sri Lanka's mangroves	3
Project updates	4-5
New projects	6
Seacology supporters	7



Save the date, October 5

The 2017 Seacology Prize Ceremony will take place on Thursday, October 5th. We will be announcing this year's recipient this summer at seacology.org/prize and in our e-newsletter.



Island stewards

We invite you to join Island Stewards, Seacology's community of monthly donors. These committed supporters help keep our work going strong year-round by making a regular contribution of any amount.

For more information, visit seacology.org/islandstewards or call 510.559.3505. Island Stewards will receive a unique item from one of Seacology's project sites after a year of membership.



From the Chair

Dear friends,

This *Island Update* details our current efforts to protect island habitats and cultures throughout the world. Our 11 conservation projects in Madagascar provide crucial protection for some of the world's most spectacular and endangered biodiversity. These projects, which have been carefully conducted with Madagascar's indigenous people, provide a model of Seacology's approach: instead of excluding indigenous people from conservation areas, Seacology sees them as a significant asset. We make sure that they receive schools, clinics, solar or hydroelectric infrastructure, or new water systems in return for their protection of these precious habitats.



We also have made landmark progress in Sri Lanka, which with Seacology's support, is now the first nation in the world to protect all of its mangrove forests. As noted in this newsletter, the Sri Lankan Navy has been assigned the lead role in ensuring that the mangrove forests flourish. I am also delighted to learn that Seacology's mangrove museum—which provides boat access to a living mangrove forest—is now the top destination in the entire country for field trips from schoolchildren. Last week I opened an envelope from Seacology, and was delighted to find postage stamps issued by the government of Sri Lanka in honor of our mangrove conservation project.

None of the Board members or Fellows receive any remuneration for our efforts in support of Seacology, and we provide our own expenses for project visits. The reason that we and many other donors commit our own time and treasure to Seacology is that we can see tangible results around the world in protecting island habitats and cultures.

I invite you to join with us.

Sincerely,

Paul Alan Cox, Ph.D.
Chair, Seacology Board of Directors



Board of Directors

Donald M. Arntz
Michael Burbank, President
Paul Alan Cox, Ph.D., Chair
Scott S. Halsted
Douglas Herst, Vice President
Suzanna Jamieson, Treasurer
Masayuki Kishimoto
Barbara Meyer
Ken Murdock, Vice Chair
Kimberly Myers Hewlett
Shari Sant Plummer, Vice President
Peter Read
Kristin M. Reed
Joseph Scalzo
Michael Staffieri
Sandie Tillotson, Vice President
Jake Walker
Marsha Garces Williams

Scientific Advisory Board

Paul Alan Cox, Ph.D.
Jared Diamond, Ph.D.
Sylvia Earle, Ph.D.
Thomas Elmqvist, Ph.D.
Robert Jansen, Ph.D.
John McCosker, Ph.D.
John Ogden, Ph.D.
Elizabeth Pierson, Ph.D.
William E. Rainey, Ph.D.
Peter H. Raven, Ph.D.
E.O. Wilson, Ph.D.

Staff

Duane Silverstein
Executive Director

Kevin Claassen
Accounting Manager

Joseph Clerici
Communications Associate

Christine Mania
Development Associate

Christina Oraftik
Program Assistant

Karen Peterson
Senior Manager of Special Initiatives

Mary Randolph
Program Manager

Aaron Rashba
Development Director

Seacology welcomes...

Christopher Wright

Field Representative, Malaysia



Chris grew up in a small coastal town in Australia and has loved the ocean all his life. He received a bachelor's degree in Development Studies and Cultural Change from Macquarie University in Sydney and worked in sustainability and community engagement around Australia.

Later he began collaborating on research projects with local NGOs in Malaysia. Since then, his passion for the region, its environment, and its cultural diversity has led him to a range of projects focusing on sustainability, renewable energy, and cultural development. He has also been passionately involved in climate change activism, and was named by the Guardian as "one of the top young campaigners to watch" before the 2016 Paris Climate Conference.

Cecilia Suárez

Field Representative, Uruguay



Cecilia's approach to conservation has been shaped by professional and academic experiences that have exposed her to a wide range of environmental challenges. Working in an NGO, Vida Silvestre Uruguay, has given her a broad knowledge of national and local needs. She worked at the local

level with communities near the Río Uruguay promoting monitoring actions with fishermen and with communities near the Atlantic Ocean in an environmental education program. At the national level, she was part of the team that was in charge of realizing the goals and the spatial design of the National System of Protected Areas for 2015-2020. Currently, she is working with the private sector to promote actions that conserve biodiversity.

SEACOLOGY

1623 Solano Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94707 USA
Tel: 510-559-3505
Fax: 510-559-3506
islands@seacology.org
www.seacology.org

SRI LANKA'S MANGROVES

Seacology expands our landmark initiative after international competition win

Seacology's first nationwide project recently marked its second anniversary, and the progress in these first two years has continued to exceed our expectations.

Since we announced the unprecedented collaboration between Seacology, Sri Lankan NGO Sudeesa, and the Sri Lankan government in May 2015, we've celebrated many milestones. We've:

- demarcated thousands of acres of Sri Lanka's mangrove forests;
- opened the world's first mangrove museum;
- established hundreds of community groups that will facilitate job training for disadvantaged Sri Lankan women and oversee mangrove stewardship;
- dispensed hundreds of microloans for struggling entrepreneurs; and
- raised and planted hundreds of thousands of mangrove seedlings along barren Sri Lankan shorelines.

These foundational pieces of the unique agreement will be built upon for the remaining three years of the project.

Our efforts in Sri Lanka received a big boost this spring, when Seacology was named as a winner of the Global Resilience Partnership's Water Window Challenge, a competition for funding to bolster Asian and African countries against climate change. The international contest had more than 400 applicants, but Seacology's innovative formula of pairing environmental stewardship with community development landed us among the finalists, and in March we were named as one of the 12 winners. This new funding of almost \$1 million allows us to expand the project in the country's northern regions, building a new job-training and conservation center in Mannar and increasing the amount of each microloan.

We've moved quickly to put these new resources to use. In April, ground was broken for the new training facility, which will enable thousands of additional women and youths to take advantage of Sudeesa's programs. The facility will also host an additional mangrove nursery, which will help ramp up our replanting work.

From the beginning, the Sri Lankan government has been a valuable partner in the effort. Sri Lanka's then-environmental minister was a signatory to the agreement, which established legal protections for the country's intact mangroves. The Sri Lankan navy has since assisted with the demarcation work and has been very involved in replanting events around the country.

"In July, I met with the head of the Sri Lankan Navy, who was proud to show me on his cellphone photos of mangrove seedlings that he had personally planted," recalled Seacology Board Chair Paul Cox, who visited Sri Lanka last summer for the opening of the museum. That ceremony was attended by several high-ranking officials, including Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena, a steadfast supporter of the project.

In April, the country's postal service recognized the project



Women who benefitted from Sudeesa microloans and training plant mangrove seedlings near Kalpitya.



P. Consee has taken advantage of Sudeesa's training and microfinance programs to expand her tailoring business.



A group of women at a training session sponsored by the Seacology-Sudeesa Sri Lanka Mangrove Conservation Project.



Sudeesa personnel lead a group of students on a tour of the mangroves in northwestern Sri Lanka.

with a commemorative envelope and stamp. Bearing the slogan, "Sri Lanka: The Land of Eternal Mangroves" and inscribed in Sinhalese, Tamil, and English, the gorgeous limited-edition materials reflect the spirit of national unity around this important conservation goal, and will help expose the project to the Sri Lankan public.

We have much work left to do. The majority of the job-training work lies ahead, and many areas remain to be replanted. But we're confident, given the progress so far, that we'll be sharing many success stories from the project for the remainder of our five-year commitment and beyond.



PROJECT UPDATES

With dozens of active projects around the world, things are happening all the time. Here are just a few highlights of the past several months.

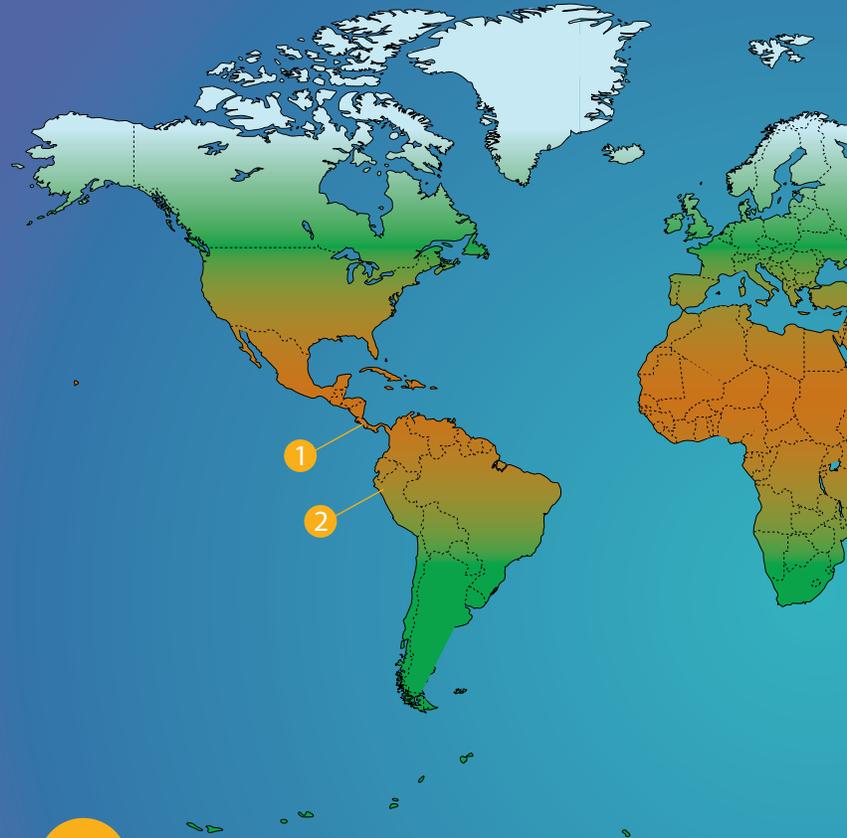
1



ISLAS CATALINAS, COSTA RICA

Environmental education, promotion of a future MPA for oceanic manta rays

Our partner, Misión Tiburón, has begun to provide environmental education to local students, holding two series of educational talks stressing the biological importance of the island and the giant mantas. About 125 students attended the talks; they also played games and painted a marine-themed mural. Talks with the government for attaining MPA status are ongoing.



2



FOCA ISLAND, PERU

Construction of ecotourism center in exchange for protection of 24,216 marine acres for 15 years

Our first project in Peru has progressed rapidly, and the visitors center is finished. A Seacology expedition will visit the site in August.

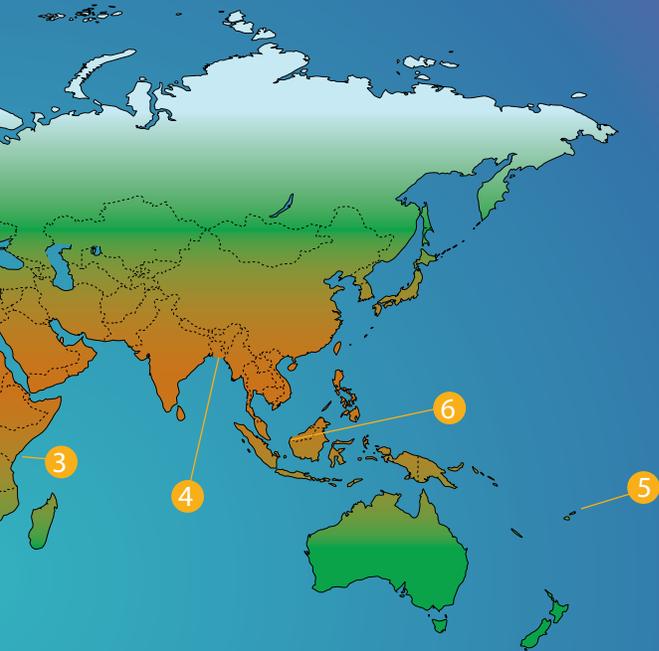
3



MKWIRO VILLAGE, WASINI ISLAND

Rehabilitation of Beach Management Unit office and construction of alternative livelihood workshop, tools and training in exchange for protection of a 741-acre marine reserve for 10 years

Our partner group is conducting beach cleanups twice a week and repurposes much of the collected waste into crafts or sells it to a recycler, generating income for the community. The group comprised 26 members at the beginning of the project, it now has over 100 members.



5



NUKUBALAVU, FIJI

Preschool and kindergarten building in exchange for creation of a 25,600-acre marine reserve for 20 years

Work has begun to repair the school, which was damaged in Cyclone Winston in early 2016. Crews are also expanding the building, adding a new bathroom and office, which will allow it to accommodate more students. After Winston's destruction, the school served as a temporary shelter for a family who lost their home to the storm.

4



ST. MARTIN'S ISLAND, BANGLADESH

Establishment of a school in exchange for protecting 1,480 acres of coral reef habitat for 10 years

The school building is complete, a teacher has been hired, and classes are underway. The marine protected area is being respected and signage and guard huts to protect sea turtle habitat on the neighboring beaches are under construction.

6



SETAPUK BESAR, INDONESIA

Community and mangrove education center and bridge, in exchange for protection of 741-acre mangrove forest for 15 years

The construction of the community center is nearly complete, and the 200-meter bridge is now functional for tourism and monitoring activities. Every weekend, about 2,000 local tourists visit the area.

NEW PROJECTS

Seacology's Board of directors recently approved seven new projects. For details on all of our work, past and present, visit seacology.org/projects.

Country	Location	Community Benefit	Environmental Benefit
COLOMBIA	Orika, Isla Grande, Rosario Islands	Waste-processing facility	Pollution reduction
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA	Woanun Koapin Soamwoai, Pohnpei	Community meeting and learning center	Expansion of Nahtik marine no-take area from 185 to 388 acres and protection for 15 years
INDONESIA	Setapuk Besar, Borneo	Community and mangrove education center and bridge	Protection of 741-acre mangrove forest for 15 years
MADAGASCAR	Andreba	Community center with solar panels and wildlife viewing platforms	Protection of 210 acres of wetlands, conservation education, ecotourism development, and restoration of degraded habitat
MEXICO	Holbox Island	Toilet facilities with rainwater collection and storage system and solar-powered water treatment system	Pollution reduction and replanting of 2.5-acre deforested area
PHILIPPINES	Batuhan, Mindoro Island	Daycare center	Protection of 132 acres of mangrove forest for 30 years and mangrove nursery
TONGA	'Atataa Island	Alternative livelihood program and rebuilding of community center	Support of a 440-acre fish habitat reserve for 15 years

Win-wins in Madagascar continued from page 1

gentle lemur. Bandros live among the reeds of Lac Alaotra, Madagascar's largest lake, and are one of the world's 25 most-threatened primate species. Our project provides the village with resources to safeguard this reserve from the encroachment of rice fields, which are rapidly expanding in the fertile Lac Alaotra basin. It also funds the restoration of degraded marshland and a plant nursery, which will aid in this effort. In exchange, we are funding a solar-powered community center that will serve as an ecotourism hub and will offer training for local farmers on sustainable agriculture, among other programs.

Another recent project, at Ambanja Bay in the country's north, is protecting nearly 1,000 acres of Madagascar's second-largest mangrove forest. Here, poverty has led local people to harvest mangroves for charcoal production. Working with the conservation NGO Blue Ventures, we're relieving some of this pressure by building infrastructure for ecotourism.

The area is home to myriad bird species, as well as green and hawksbill sea turtles, and seasonally, whale sharks. It is also near the small island of Nosy Be, Madagascar's most popular tourist destination. By making some modest investments, including a new visitors' center, bathrooms, and a trail through the dense mangroves, we are helping make the area more accessible and inviting for tourists, and thus bring in sustainable



Our project at Ambanja Bay protects a tract of Madagascar's second-largest mangrove forest.

revenue. The project site will also host forest guards, who will help enforce the 30-year conservation agreement.

These two most recent projects are just the latest in nearly a dozen successful, holistic conservation efforts in Madagascar. We continue to look for new opportunities to bring Seacology's unique win-win model of conservation and community empowerment to this fascinating, unique country.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Chief Ulu Fellows

(\$25,000 or more)

Anonymous
Argus Fund
Robert Epstein and Amy Roth
Maja Kristin
Alice and Leslie E. Lancy Foundation
William and Eva Price
Suriyakumar Family Trust
Nadine Tang and Bruce Smith
Newman and Zeneth Ward Family
Foundation

Board of Directors

In 2016, all Seacology Board members made generous personal gifts. Board contributions represent a significant portion of Seacology's total fundraising. We are most grateful for the generosity and leadership of each Seacology Board member.

Island Fellows

(\$10,000-\$24,999)

Anonymous
Albert Chao
Robert Dion and Mary O'Malley

Seacology Fellows

(\$2,000-\$9,999)

Anonymous
Yvonne Adams and Jeremy Green
John and Betty Ann Altman
Larry and Wendy Barel
Linda Bengt
Renee Boicourt
Iain Boltin
Pete and Ginny Boyce
Peter and Mimi Buckley
Craig and Nana Chiappone
David Davis
Virginia and Peter Dimsey
Glenn and Bettina Duval
Gordon Firestein and Doris Lang
Kathryn Fox-Winokur
Robert and Michelle Friend
Markus Fromherz and Heike Schmitz
Theodore and Frances Geballe
Ian Glascock
John and Marcia Goldman
Nan Guslander
Esmond Harmsworth
Charitable Foundation

Friedman Family Foundation
Robert and Rosemary Heil
Arthur Kern

Terri Hersh
Wolcott Henry
Thomas and Bonnie Herman
Michael Hofman and Janet Moyer
John Hunting
Reed Kathrein
Murray and Jeanie Kilgour
John and Janet Kister
Lang Foundation
Annette Leckie
David and Valerie London
Mary Love May and Paul Gabrielson
Brian and Caroline Lurie
Mel McCombie and Harris Friedberg
Allen and Kim Meredith
Taka Moriuchi/Axe Taka, Inc.
Mark Murzin and Kris Knoernschild
Michael Neidorf
Patagonia.com
Matsuno Kuhara Patrick
Buffy Redsecker and Alan Chung
Wen Rosencrance and
Eugene Crocilla

Mariposa Fund
Anne Symchych
Paul and Leigh Tischler

John and Pauline Ryan
Rand and Carol Selig
Ruth Shapiro
Duane Silverstein and Marcia Stewart
Gilda and Warren Sprung
Barbara Sweet
Christine Symchych and
James McNulty
Maria Taft
Cherri and Randall Tom
Jake Warner and Toni Ihara
Todd Werby and Nonie Greene
Wayne and Julissa Westerman
Gregory and Patti White
Scott Wilson and Lucy Cummings

Seacology is fortunate to receive many gifts under \$2,000. Space limitations prevent us from listing the name of each donor, but we deeply appreciate every contribution to Seacology. Each gift we receive is important to our efforts to protect the world's islands.

Island Legacy Society

Members of the Island Legacy Society have made a commitment to protecting islands by making a planned gift to Seacology.

Frank W. and
Margaret B. Adelstein Fund*
Marie-Louise Ansak
Larry and Wendy Barel
Charitable Remainder Trust
Michael Burbank & Cindy Roberts
Kimo Campbell*
Paul and Barbara Cox
Rosalind Douglas Trust*
Graham Farrar Living Trust
Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Feigenbaum*
Kathryn Fox-Winokur
Susan Friedman
Christy Gavitt
Eliot Girsang & Richard Wilson

Kathleen Goetten*
Hank and Jane Goichman
Morgan Griffin
Craig Grube
Scott Halsted
Doug and Leni Herst
Michael N. Hofman and Janet Moyer
Hotham Family Trust
Carlton A. Hubbell Trust*
Cynthia Hubach,
in memory of Richard A. Hubach
Suzanna Jamieson
Sara Katz
Masayuki Kishimoto
Mr. Raleigh Klein

Ken Murdock
Mark Murzin and Krista Knoernschild
Dana Nojima and
Elaine Lyford-Nojima
Matsuno Kuhara Patrick
Mickey Petersen Charitable Fund*
Peter Pistor
Shari Sant Plummer
John C. and Susan C. Racanelli
Gordon Radley
James and Gretchen Sandler
Guy and Jeanine Saperstein
Joseph and Catherine Scalzo
Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Selig
Duane Silverstein and Marcia Stewart

Rose & Arthur Silverstein
Memorial Fund*
Mr. Lindley S. Sloan
Michael and Marilyn Staffieri
Family Trust
Sandie N. Tillotson Foundation
Cindy and Richard Troop
James L. Walker, IV
Alex Weinstein, MD and
Betty Helton, MD
Erin West
Herbert A. West
Greg and Pat White
Marsha Garces Williams

*Deceased





1623 Solano Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94707 USA

Printed on 100 percent post-consumer waste recycled paper using soy-based inks.

Since 1991, Seacology has helped protect island habitats and local communities by offering villages a unique deal: If they agree to create or enforce a forest or marine reserve, we'll provide funds for something the village needs, like a schoolhouse or health clinic.

